

Today's News - Friday, September 19, 2008

- It is with a sad heart I post news of the passing of my friend and mentor, Stephen A. Kliment.
- Carlson says if campuses want to be "in the vanguard of design and research" they should start with their buildings (Gehry's Princeton library is "not radical enough").
- A Seattle tower built almost a decade ago is set to meet the 2030 Challenge.
- An eyeful of Birmingham's "stunning, bold, and brave" New Street station.
- Russell on H&deM and Koolhaas's Manhattan towers: "a welcome jolt to a skyline afflicted by luxury-living poseurs in tinted-glass and pink-brick faux historicism."
- Heathcote finds H&deM's tower "refreshing, startling and just absurd enough...to be one of the most extraordinary" towers in NYC.
- While there's some "exuberance and surprise" in Viñoly's Brooklyn Children's Museum, there's "not much that is daring, and too much that is dutiful."
- Two urban experts discuss how they came up with 100-year visions for Calgary and Portland.
- Good news (and hopefully new life) for historic Miami Marine Stadium.
- Chicagoland Watch List notes 13 sites with shaky futures (an FLW included).
- Study shows just because you win a competition doesn't mean you'll get to build.
- Calls for entries: Exhibitor Magazine's Exhibit Design Awards. - And two ways to win with sustainable wood.
- Winners all: BusinessWeek/Architectural Record Good Design is Good Business Awards. - A long shortlist for the Emirates Glass LEAF Awards.
- Weekend diversions: Arieff takes on Bucky at the Whitney and prefab at MoMA: there's much to learn at one, and "tons of cool stuff to look at" but little to say at the other.
- It's open doors at Open House London and Liverpool Biennial: Glancey and Rose offer their very different picks (and check out Diller Scofidio + Renfro's rotating trees!).
- A prickly Poole ponders "Place Makers" at the Queensland Art Gallery: "contemporary architecture is excessively overindulgent."
- Vicenza celebrates Palladio's 500th.
- A writer obsessed with the myth of Moses.
- "Frank Lloyd Wright's Home & Studio": a new DVD documentary and interactive tour on CD-ROM.

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Obituary: Stephen A. Kliment, FAIA, Former RECORD Editor in Chief, 78: ...helped bring early attention to some of today's architectural stars, including Steven Holl, Rem Koolhaas, Enrique Norten, and Ken Yeang in Asia...served as editorial director of AIA's Oculus magazine [and] e-Oculus... - Architectural Record

The 'Green Era' Should Propagate Smarter Buildings: It feels odd to look up at a Frank Gehry building...and think: It's not radical enough...we need a new kind of star architecture...If colleges and universities want to be in the vanguard of design and research, they might start by setting examples with their buildings—making the way they work as sexy as they look. By Scott Carlson - The Chronicle of Higher Education

Fourth and Madison Tower in Seattle: The Sleeper Hit: A few simple elements lead to serious sustainability...on pace today to meet the 2030 Challenge... -- Zimmer Gunsul Frasca (ZGF) [images] - AIArchitect

Stunning new look for Birmingham's New Street station: Bold and brave, this iconic new gateway to Birmingham will cement the city's place as one of Europe's style capitals. -- Alejandro Zaera-Polo/Foreign Office Architects (FOA) [images, video] - Birmingham Mail (UK)

Showy Condos by Herzog & de Meuron, Koolhaas Remake NYC Skyline: ...56 Leonard...dramatically muscular on the lower floors...23 E. 22nd St...a surreally distorted wedding-cake building laid over the sky...The best of these new towers give a welcome jolt to a skyline afflicted by luxury-living poseurs in tinted-glass and pink-brick faux historicism. Review by James S. Russell -- Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA) [images] - Bloomberg News

New start for an urban form: The latest skyscraper proposal for Manhattan looks as if it may achieve something impossible, perhaps even absurd...56 Leonard Street...Refreshing, startling and just absurd enough, this cascade of modernist villas is destined to be one of the most extraordinary piles in a city already dense with surprise and architectural incident. By Edwin Heathcote -- Herzog & De Meuron - Financial Times (UK)

Kids, Can You Say 'Cultural Diversity'? Exuberance, surprise and a playful approach to knowledge can be found at the newly renovated Brooklyn Children's Museum...There is not much that is daring, and too much that is dutiful. By Edward Rothstein -- Edwin Schlossberg (1970s); Rafael Viñoly [images, video] - New York Times

How do you find out what people want for their city? Sometimes, you just ask them. -- John Lewis/Intelligent Futures/Imagine Calgary; Liesl Wendt/Vision PDX (Portland) [audio] - Smart City Radio

Miami Marine Stadium Wins Historic Designation: "It's an only-in-Miami experience." -- Hilario Candela; Albert Ferendino (1964) [images] - AIArchitect

2008-2009 Chicagoland Watch List of 13 historic sites announced -- Andrew Rebori (1924); H.R. Wilson and Co. (1913); Bertrand Goldberg (1967; 1975); John Van Osdel II (1894); David E. Postle (1901); Henry Edwards-Ficken (1894); Frank Lloyd Wright (1915) - Landmarks Illinois

Over a third of RIBA competition-winning schemes are unbuilt: A study carried out by the AJ into RIBA competitions in 2005, 2006 and 2007 has revealed that winning an RIBA contest does not necessarily mean the practice will get to build the work. - Cottrell + Vermeulen; Spence Associates; Latitude Architects; Mæ; Softroom; Flacq - The Architects' Journal (UK)

Call for entries: Exhibitor Magazine's 23rd Annual Exhibit Design Awards (international); deadline: November 24 - Exhibitor Magazine

Call for entries: Going with the Grain: design an object using sustainable wood; and Wood, Paper, Checkmark: design an awareness campaign for sustainable forestry deadline: January 13, 2009 - DESIGN 21: Social Design Network

BusinessWeek and Architectural Record Announce 2008 11th annual "Good Design is Good Business" Awards -- Diamond and Schmitt; STUDIOS Architecture; NBBJ; Ralph Johnson/Perkins + Will; Skidmore, Owings, & Merrill (SOM); Bucholz McEvoy Architects [slide show] - Architectural Record

Shortlist for the Emirates Glass LEAF Awards 2008 -- Schmidt Hammer Lassen; Bucholz McEvoy; Dok Architetten; Henning Larsen; Kengo Kuma; Terry Farrell; Eklego Design; John McAslan; Camenzind Evolution; Steven Holl; Hassel; Skidmore, Owings & Merrill (SOM); DTA; Xavier Vilalta; Riesco + Riviera; Bunker Arquitectura; Art and Build Architect; Bernard Tschumi; LSI Architects; Morgan Lovell; Swanke Hayden Connell; WSP; Archi5; Mott MacDonald; Foster + Partners [links to images/projects] - designbuild-network.com (UK)

Housing the Universe: Two museum shows address the matter of housing in very different ways. "Starting with the Universe" cohesive curation lets us learn a lot from Buckminster Fuller..."Home Delivery" has tons of cool stuff to look at, but...has so little to say about the experience of actually living in one. By Allison Arieff [images]- New York Times

Open House London top 10 buildings: Jonathan Glancey selects some highlights from the hundreds of buildings open to the public this weekend -- Richard Seifert (1967); Richard Rogers (1986); Casson Conder Partnership (1983); Connell, Ward and Lucas (1936); Ernő Goldfinger (1972); Arne Jacobsen (1971); Walter Segal (1987); George Gilbert Scott/Matthew Digby Wyatt (1868) [images, links]- Guardian (UK)

Pick of the Open House weekend: Steve Rose gives his tips as to which doors to knock on -- Alex Michaelis; Zaha Hadid; Michael Hopkins; Foreign Office Architects (FOA); Norman Foster; Richard Rogers; Haworth Tompkins; Justin Bere [slide show]- Guardian (UK)

Liverpool Biennial 2008 international exhibition MADE UP, an exploration of the power of the artistic imagination; September 20 - November 30. [videos, images, links]- Liverpool Biennial (UK)

Architect redrawing flaw plan: Gabriel Poole's response to the Place Makers exhibition now at the Queensland Art Gallery - and in which he features - is to dismiss it as over the top...points out that there are many fine architects represented, and he'd rather not offend them. But he sticks to his general opinion that "contemporary architecture in the main is excessively overindulgent"...- The Australian

Showing an architect's signs of genius: Andrea Palladio...created a living museum with his groundbreaking, neoclassical designs...this year, the 500th anniversary of his birth, Vicenza will celebrate Palladio's legacy, putting a spotlight on this lesser-known jewel of a city...- Boston Globe

Writing the Myth of Moses: Arthur Nersesian...turned Robert Moses, the master builder, into a fictional character and made him his muse...two novels in a projected five-volume series titled "The Five Books of Moses." They present a fictionalized account of Moses and his impact on New York..."The Swing Voter of Staten Island" and "The Sacrificial Circumcision of the Bronx"...- New York Times

"Frank Lloyd Wright's Home & Studio": new DVD documentary and interactive tour on CD-ROM. [video preview]- Frank Lloyd Wright Preservation Trust



- Herzog & de Meuron: Miami Art Museum, Miami, Florida
- Mecanoo architecten: FiftyTwoDegrees, Nijmegen, The Netherlands

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